

Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

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P R 261035Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2285

INFO SECDEF PRIORITY

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE

COMFAIRMED

COMFAIRMEDREP ATHENS

CHJUSMAGG ATHENS

7206TH ABGRP

CNO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 0558

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR GR US

SUBJ: NEGOTIATIONS ON SOUDA BAY

REF ATHENS 0332 (NOTAL)

1. ON JANUARY 25 DCM AND POLMIL OFFICER MET WITH GREGORIADES AND GEORGHU OF 5TH DIRECTORATE IN ORDER TO DELIVER COPIES OF PARALLEL TEXT PRESENTATION OF GREEK AND US VERSIONS OF SOUDA AB AGREEMENT, PROMISED IN MEETING OF JANUARY 15 AND PREPARED BY COMFAIRMEDREP. FONOFF REPS. EVIDENTLY STILL NOT FAMILIAR WITH ISSUES YET TO BE RESOLVED AND, IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES BY EMBOFFS, INDICATED THAT AFTER COORDINATION WITH HAFIC THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO ADDRESS SUBSTANCE OF ISSUES TOWARD END OF FOLLOWING WEEK.

2. EMBOFFS NOTED THAT RATIONALE FOR HOMEPORTING OF CARRIER, IN TERMS REQUESTED BY AMB TZOUNIZ (PARA 6, CONFIDENTIAL

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REFTEL), UNDER PREPARATION AND SHOULD BE READY IN FEW

DAYS. EMBOFFS ALSO REFERRED TO POST-MEETING CORRIDOR DISCUSSION OF JAN 15, WHICH REVEALED FONOFF RECEPTIVITY TO US DRAFTS AS BASIS FOR DISCUSSION OF MEGARA BAY AND PERHAPS ELEFSIS AB, AND STATED THAT SUCH DRAFTS ALSO UNDER PREPARATION. FONOFF REPS. CONFIRMED READINESS TO ACCEPT THESE DRAFTS.

3. IN SEPARATE BUT RELATED EVENT, DATT AND POLMIL OFFICER ON JAN 25 HAD OCCASION TO TALK WITH MG (RET.) PAPAVALASSILOU FOR FIRST TIME SINCE LATTER DEPOSED FROM POSITION OF VICE CHIEF OF HAFIC ON NOV 25. PAPAVALASSILOU VOLUNTEERED THAT EMBASSY PREVIOUSLY HAD DEDUCED, THAT HAFIC INTENTION IS TO NEGOTIATE AGREEMENTS COVERING US ACTIVITIES AT SOUDA AB, ELEFSIS AB, AND ATHENAI AB WHICH WILL BE IDENTICAL IN ARTICLES COVERING PRINCIPLES BUT, OF COURSE, DIFFERING IN SPECIFICS OF OPERATIONS. ALTHOUGH PAPAVALASSILOU IS OUT OF HAFIC, HIS PHILOSOPHY IN THIS REGARD HAS CARRIED OVER, AND PERHAPS BEEN INTENSIFIED, UNDER LT. GEN. PAPANICOLAU AND MG KOTSOLAKIS. INASMUCH AS FONOFF CLEARLY WILL RELY HEAVILY ON HAFIC FOR COORDINATION AND DIRECTION, EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE DURING COURSE OF CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ON SOUDA AB TO BEAR IN MIND PROBABLE IMPLICATIONS FOR US ACTIVITIES AT ATHENAI AB. TASCA

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